

of the Final Office Action so that any extension fees will be calculated from the mailing date of any Advisory Action.

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please Cancel claim 21 without prejudice.~~

~~Please AMEND claims 22, 23, 24, 26 and 31 to read as follows:~~

*2. 21. (First Amended)*

1        The electrical fitting of claim *23* wherein the *circumferentially continuous*  
2        opening has an axial length at least equal to the diameter of the pin and the glass seal has an  
3        axial length at least equal to the diameter of the pin.

*1. 23. (First Amended)*

1        A sealed electrical fitting for a vehicle fuel tank comprising:  
2            a metal wall of the fuel tank having at least one opening through the wall with  
3            a circumferentially continuous edge;  
4            at least two elongate electrically conductive metal pins extending through the  
5            at least one opening and each of the pins having a diameter and a longitudinal length greater  
6            than the diameter;  
7            at least one seal of glass received in the at least one opening and bonded to  
8            at least one of the pins;

9 adjacent surfaces of adjacent pins being spaced apart a distance equal to or  
10 greater than the diameter of the pin, the minimum spacing between a peripheral edge of the  
11 glass seal and each immediately adjacent pin being at least equal to the diameter of the pin,  
12 the coefficient of thermal expansion of the metal wall being greater than the coefficient of  
13 thermal expansion of the glass of the glass seal, the metal wall and the glass seal being  
14 configured so that the glass is in a compressed state, and  
15 the same glass seal is bonded to at least two of the pins and the edge of the  
16 same opening through the metal wall.

3. 24. (First Amended)

1 A sealed electrical fitting for a vehicle fuel tank comprising:

2 a metal wall of the fuel tank having a metal flange, a metal tubular housing

3 fixed to the flange, extending through the flange, and defining an opening through the wall;

4 at least two elongate electrically conductive metal pins extending through the

5 opening and each of the pins having a diameter and a longitudinal length greater than the

6 diameter;

7 a seal of glass received in the opening and bonded to the pins;

8 adjacent surfaces of adjacent pins being spaced apart a distance equal to or

9 greater than the diameter of the pin, the minimum spacing between a peripheral edge of the

10 glass seal and each immediately adjacent pin being at least equal to the diameter of the pin,

11 the coefficient of thermal expansion of the metal wall being greater than the coefficient of

12 thermal expansion of the glass of the glass seal, the metal wall and the glass seal being

b1  
b7C  
b7A

13       configured so that the glass is in a compressed state; and  
14                    all of the pins are received in the housing and the glass seal is bonded to all  
15                    of the pins and the housing.

---

6. 26. (First Amended)

b2

1           A sealed electrical fitting for a vehicle fuel tank comprising:  
2                    a metal wall of the fuel tank having a metal flange, at least two metal collars  
3                    carried by the flange and each defining a through opening having an inner circumferentially  
4                    continuous edge;  
5                    an electrically conductive metal pin extending through each of the openings  
6                    and each of the pins having a diameter and a longitudinal length greater than the diameter;  
7                    a seal of glass received in each of the openings and bonded to the associated  
8                    pin received therein and the inner edge of the collar in which the pin is received; and  
9                    adjacent surfaces of adjacent pins being spaced apart a distance equal to or  
10                  greater than the diameter of the pin, the minimum spacing between a peripheral edge of the  
11                  glass seal and each immediately adjacent pin being at least equal to the diameter of the pin,  
12                  the coefficient of thermal expansion of the metal wall being greater than the coefficient of  
13                  thermal expansion of the glass of the glass seal, and the metal wall and the glass seal being  
14                  configured so that the glass of each seal is in a compressed state.

9. 31. (First Amended)

1                   The electrical fitting of claim 26 wherein the wall also comprises a metal tray  
2                   having a circumferentially continuous outer peripheral edge, the collars are homogeneously  
3                   integral with the tray, the flange has another through opening defined by a circumferentially  
4                   continuous edge which bears on the outer peripheral edge of the tray and these mating edges  
5                   are fixed and sealed together by one of welding, soldering and brazing.

Please ADD the following claim 32:

5. 32. (Added)

1                   The electrical fitting of claim 24 wherein the circumferential edge of the  
2                   opening has an axial length at least equal to the diameter of the pin and the glass seal has an  
3                   axial length at least equal to the diameter of the pin.

A Marked-Up Copy Showing Changes Made in Response to the Final Office  
Action is enclosed.

There are now 3 remaining independent claims and 11 claims in this  
application and we believe no additional claim fees are due; but if the Patent Office  
determines that there are fees due, it is hereby authorized and respectfully requested that the  
additional fees be charged to our Deposit Account 50-0852.